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OS REGISTRY

20 AUG 1987

20 AUG 1987

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Community Counterintelligence and
Security Countermeasures Office

ATTENTION:



OS REGISTRY

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18 AUG 1988

FROM:

Director of Security

SUBJECT: Draft Comments on HPSCI Counterintelligence
and Security Recommendations 

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REFERENCE: DCI/ICS 0907-87, dtd 29 July 87; Same Subject

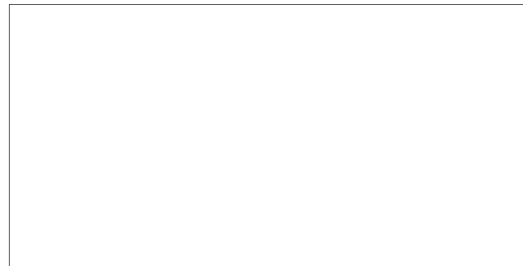
1. The Office of Security, Office of General Counsel, and Counterintelligence Staff have reviewed the initial draft comments on the recommendations contained in the 4 February 1987 HPSCI unclassified report, United States Counterintelligence and Security Concerns, 1986. Proposed changes in text are highlighted on tabbed pages in the attached draft. 

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2. Questions concerning these changes should be directed to  Acting Chief, Policy Branch/PPS on secure 

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Attachment



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OS/EO/PPS,  (19 Aug. 87)

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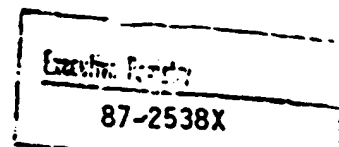
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U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6415



10LL 2-5-1-2R

June 23, 1987

THOMAS E. LATIMER, STAFF DIRECTOR
MICHAEL J. O'NEIL, CHIEF COUNSEL
THOMAS R. SMETTON, ASSOCIATE COUNSEL

Honorable William H. Webster
Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Judge Webster:

Last February, the Committee issued a public report entitled, "U.S. Counterintelligence and Security Concerns - 1986." The report noted a number of weaknesses in our ability to undertake counterintelligence operations against espionage by other countries. A central theme was that, while any one of the weaknesses would be of individual concern, taken together, they signified an emerging pattern of poor management in U.S. counterintelligence and security programs. The report stressed the need to take more aggressive action and made sixteen findings and fourteen recommendations.

Among the principal areas of concern highlighted were:

- weaknesses in personnel selection and the need for a coordinated review of community hiring practices;
- a need for a better exchange of counterintelligence data among agencies;
- a critical need to standardize, expedite and fund the security clearance process; and
- a greater focus on financial matters in the conduct of background investigations.

The report also noted a concern that "once the glare of public scrutiny leaves the problems of espionage and security . . . the political will to advance security programs and maintain high levels of attention and necessary funding for their implementation will not be sustained."

This Committee does not intend for its report to be the final word on these matters. I have asked Tony Beilenson, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Oversight and Evaluation, to follow through on the report and to undertake a continuing examination of the intelligence community's response to the Committee's findings and recommendations. I anticipate that the Subcommittee will hold hearings on these and related matters in the fall. Prior to that

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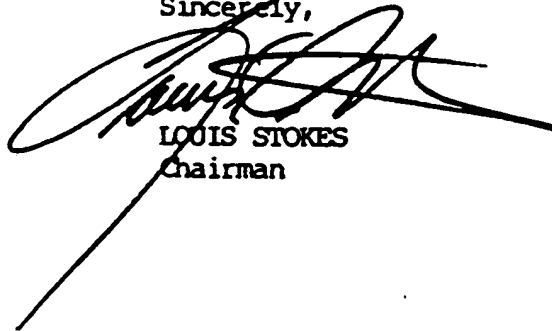
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time, I am requesting that you and your staff carefully review the Committee's report and respond by September 11, 1987 on what specific steps the community is taking in response to the Committee's findings and recommendations.

I know you agree that we cannot simply become concerned about security when we have a major counterintelligence failure or a new espionage case. Too often in the past, we have had lip service paid to these critical issues when they are in the forefront of media attention only to see concerted long-term action get lost in the bureaucracy.

The full Committee and the Subcommittee, under Chairman Beilenson, is prepared to work with you in reaching what I know are mutual goals in improving our counterintelligence and security posture, to include assistance in implementing new programs and funding. I look forward to your response on the Committee's recommendations and stand ready to address these matters constructively in the coming months.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Louis Stokes, is written over the typed name and title. The signature is fluid and somewhat abstract, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

LOUIS STOKES
Chairman

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